

**CLAYTON'S ELECTROTHERAPY AND ACTINOTHERAPY.** By Pauline M. Scott. Seventh Edition. (Pp. 404. Figs 220. £4.50). London: Baillière Tindall. 1975.

THIS essential textbook for physiotherapy students covering all aspects of Electrophoresis is now in a very simple format. Important new chapters have been added on mechanotherapy, hydrotherapy and ultrasonic techniques, leaving out many of the more intricate wiring problems.

The whole book is very well laid out and it makes it easy and enjoyable to read.

G.G.

**ANAESTHETIC EQUIPMENT. Physical Principles and Maintenance.** By C. S. Ward. (Pp. 282. Figs 314. £8.50). London: Baillière Tindall. 1975.

THERE is no doubt that this book fills an empty slot in the library of anaesthesia. It enters, however timidly, the realm of the mechanical engineer, and in future editions this trend is to be encouraged, for example to include material on such topics as motors, gearboxes and even basic screwthread know-how rather than the brief mention of the B.S.P. thread (and its anomalous method of sizing according to the nominal bore of the tubing for which the fitting is intended). The writer shows an intimate knowledge of things mechanical, but, surprisingly avoids the electronic field with no descriptions of, for example, the C.R.T., pen-writer or digital displays. One would also have liked to see sections on metallurgy and the chemistry of plastics. Fluidic and mechanical bi-stable mechanisms are well explained. There is a good general review of relevant basic physics, not overburdened with mathematical theory. Electricity and magnetism are not covered.

Four chapters of the book are devoted to the common anaesthetic machine, which is described in great detail, assembling useful material and new "exploded" diagrams of for example flow meters and vapourizers. Mechanical details are presented in a lucid and concise manner, and where relevant, references are made to historic but obsolete apparatus to enable the reader to understand the evolution of modern equipment. A chapter on ventilators covers the common types, but does not go into detail on their methods of operation.

Monitoring received a whole chapter, but one is amazed to find so little space devoted to blood gas/pH measurement, arterial lines and the electrocardiograph. Perhaps the next edition will include these and extend to new developments such as the highly important "memory-scope" monitor with its special form of display.

Ancillary subjects such as humidification, suction and sterilization of equipment receive a chapter each and the book ends with an interesting chapter on "Hazards" containing the best description of the pathophysiology of electrocution which the reviewer has seen. An important omission however is the danger of surgical diathermy to the patient with Stokes-Adams disease who may be depending upon an implanted pacemaker.

Useful appendices cover data on the taper systems for tubing connectors, and a table of equivalent units.

**SURGERY OF THE ANUS, RECTUM AND COLON.** Third Edition. By J. C. Goligher (Pp. VIII + 1164, 608 figures, £21.00).

IT is a pleasure to review what must be the best reference volume in Surgery of the Large Bowel in the world literature. The first two Editions have proved to be highly successful and in the 3rd Edition the material has been revised and updated. In addition new material on topics such as fibro optic colonoscopy and continent ileostomy of Kock has been added. The book aims to be comprehensive and yet concise. Knowledge is presented in a lucid, systematic, balanced form, well-tempered with personal clinical experience as well as that of other